# Sir Arthur Hasterigg

his Speech in Parliament,

the fifth of Ianuary last.

Whereby he cleareth himselfe of the Articles of high Treason, exhibited against himselfe, the Lord *Kimbolton*, Mr. *I. Pym*, Mr. *Hampden*, Mr. *Stroud*, and M. *Hollis*, *by his Majesty on tuesday 4. of Ianu.* 1641.

Whereunto is added

# Master PIM his SPEECH

## In PARLIAMENT,

Concerning the Vote of the House of Commons, for his Discharge upon the Accusation of High Treason, exhibited against himself, and others.

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*London*, Printed for *F. C.* and *T. B.* 1641.

5 Jan. 1642

# Sir *Arthur Haſlerigg* his Speech in PARLIAMENT.

Mr. *Speaker.*

THis misfortune of mine ſeemes to mee at the firſt exceeding ſtrange, not onely in reſpect of the Crimes laid to my charge, but moſt of all having thereby incurred not only the diſfavour but itefull diſpleaſure of his Sacred *Majeſty*. For the firſt, knowing the innocency and integrity of my heart, that it is free from any ſuch crime either in thought, word or deed againſt either my gratious *Soveraign*, or my native *Country*, I ſhall the more eaſily beare the burthen of the charge, but to groane under the burthen of a moſt Pious and wiſe Prince his diſpleaſure, wounds me ſore.

Mr. *Speaker*, I humbly deſire ſo much favour of this Honourable Houſe of which I have had the happineſſe to be a Member, to ſpeake ſomething of my Innocence in all theſe Crimes I am charged withall.

This Honourable Houſe (Mr. *Speaker*) can I hope witneſſe for me, the manner of my carriage and diſpoſition in any debate or arguments wherein I have beene one, I hope nothing hath proceeded from me, that can come any wayes within the compaſſe of Treaſon.

In all diſputes and concluſions of any matter by Vote of the Houſe, my Vote hath commonly agreed with the Major part then I hope my Vote in *Parliament* being free cannot be Treaſon.

Mr. *Speaker*, The Articles that are exhibited againſt mee and the other Gentlemen, are of moſt dangerous and pernitious conſequence, if wee ſhould be found guilty of them, which God defend, I would to God theſe perſons that incenſed his *Majeſty* againſt us, (which is eaſily conceived who they are) were as free from thoughts, words, nay actions within the limits of Treaſon) as I hope we ſhall prove our ſelves by Gods bleſſing.

MASTER *Speaker*, It is alleadged, wee have endeavoured to ſubvert the fundamentall Lawes of this Land, abridge the Kings power, and deny his Royall *Prerogatives*. Give mee leave I beſeech you, to ſpeake concerning this Article. There is (as I conceive) not two Formes or Governement in this Kingdome: there it not two ſorts of Fundamentall Lawes: there is but one forme of Government; One ſort of Fundamentall Lawes, that is, the Common Lawes of this Land, and acts, Statutes, and Ordinances of Parliament, theſe two Mr. *Speaker*, depend and hang

hang one upon another, ſo that they cannot bee ſeparated; and he that ſubverts the one, breaks and infringes the other. Now under favour *Mr. Speaker*, to ſpeake freely in *Parliament* (freely called and aſſembled by his Majeſties moſt Royal Authority) to Vote freely in the ſame, upon the concluſion of any Bill to be made a Law by the whole conſent of Parliament aſſented to by his *Majeſty*: to agree in Voting with the whole Parliament againſt Delinquents, and Malefactors in the State, to bring them to condigne puniſhment for the ſame: to give my Vote in the Houſe, or removing evill Counſellours from his ſacred Majeſty, to place loyall and faithfull ones in their place: To aſſent with the whole State aſſembled together in Counſell for the ſetling of peace and tranquillity in the ſame: To ordaine and enact ſuch wholſome Lawes and Ordinances whereby his Majeſties good Subjects may be governed in righteouſneſſe and good obedience: To Vote with the Houſe for redreſſing the many grievances of the Common-wealth, If theſe be to ſubvert the Fundamentall Lawes of the Land, then Mr. Speaker am I guilty of this Article in giving my Vote againſt the Earle of *Strafford*; in Voting thoſe acts already made and paſſed by his Majeſty; in Voting againſt the Biſhops; in proteſting to maintaine the Fundamentall Lawes of the Land, the true *Proteſtant* Religion, according to the true Doctrine of the Church of *England*: I ſay then Mr. *Speaker*, in this am I guilty of high Treaſon: but if this bee not to ſubvert the Lawes of the Land; then (as I conceive) am I cleare from being guilty of this Article. Which I humbly leave to the conſideration of this Honourable Houſe.

Under favour (*Maſter Speaker*) I come now to the other Articles of the Charge: I will onely recite the ſubſtance of them; for they all harpe on one thing: To indeavour to bring in an Arbitrary and tyrannicall Forme of Government: To invite Tumults, and unlawfull reſorts of multitudes of people to the *Parliament*, to be a colour for our Deſignes: to raiſe Forces and Armies in this Land to aſſiſt me in my practiſes: To invite forraigne Princes to bring an Army into the Land: To endeavour by Declarations, Proclamations, and otherwiſe to alienate the hearts of his Majeſties loyall Subjects from their lawfull Soveraigne thereby to avert their due obedience from him, and having an evill opinion of his ſacred Majeſty, to ſide with us, and take our parts to effect our Deſignes.

Give me leave I beſeech you to ſpeake concerning theſe crimes: And firſt *Mr. Speaker* to endeavour to bring in an Arbitrary power and tyrannicall Forme of Goverment in the Subject, is to deny Parliamentary proceedings: To oppoſe the Laws enacted by *Parliaments*: To incenſe his Majeſty againſt *Parliaments*; to protect and Petition againſt the proceedings thereof, is to bring in an Arbitrary forme of Government. But to agree with the *Parlia-*

ment being a Member thereof by Vote to make and enact Lawes; I conceive this cannot be termed Arbitrary; neither I perswade my selfe can the effects thereof be tyrannicall.

Secondly, concerning the late Tumults about the House, I am innocent thereof; neither came they by my invitation or incouragement: I alwaies thought their resorts in that sort were illegall and riotous: I have Voted with this House for their suppressing; have assented to all Orders for their appeasing; agreed with the *Parliament* in all things concerning their petitions and Requests: Then I hope this *Honourable* House will not conceive me guilty of this Crime: if it be one, and granted; yet I conceive far without the limits of Treason for these Reasons.

1. They came not with Armes to force any thing to be done in *Parliament*; but humbly by Petition shewed their grievances, and desired redresse thereof which is one Priviledge (and one of the greatest) to make their griefs knowne to a *Parliament*, and by them to be relieved.

2. They offered no assault; but (beeing assaulted) preserved themselves and departed.

3. The matter of their clamour was not against the King nor any of his Counsell: It was not against the Lords, nor House of Commons: It was only against Delinquents, against such as had been the greatest oppressors of them.

Thirdly, I come in a word to the other Articles of the charge which I intend to speake of (under favour) altogether: I pray you who raised any army actually in this Land but the trained Bands, which was done by the *Parliament* for the security of their owne persons in the Kings absence; and in obedience to his commands, at his returne home they were discharged, and afterwards againe raised by his Majesties owne Royal Authority. And for inviting or procuring any forreigne Princes to ayd me with an Army, I am altogether innocent therein; I know of no aid required but from *Scotland*, which is done by the *Parliament*, my Vote as a Member thereof only agreeing with them in the same: And that aid is procured for his Majesties assistance in subduing the Rebellion in *Ireland*, and (as I conceive) for no other purpose. And for the last Article wherewith I am charged, I hope to bee cleared by this whole House for what Declamations or Proclamations have beene published but by Authority of the *Parliament*, joyn'd with his Majesties most Royall Power and assent thereunto. It is manifest to all people that nothing is published by the *Parliament*; or any of the Members thereof, but tendeth to the winning of the hearts of his Majesties Subjects to dutifull obedience and intire love and tender affection towards their gracious Soveraign. And I dare confidently say, that there is none of his Majesties Subjects tha-

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are true Proteſtants, and well affected to Religion; but upon the leaſt command of his Majeſties, will ſpend their deareſt bloud in defence of his Sacred Perſon, his Queene and Princely Iſſue, of the Lawes and Conſtitutions of this Kingdome, of *Parliaments* and the Rights and Priviledges thereof; of Religion and the Doctrine of the Church of *England*. And therefore I conceive I am far from intending any Treaſon againſt his Majeſty or Kingdome. And thus craving pardon for my preſumption, and humbly thanking this Honourable Houſe for their patience, beſeeching them to have a good opinion of me and my Actions, that I may receive ſuch Tryall as to their wiſedomes ſhall ſeeme meet, with my hearty Prayers for the happy continuance of this *Parliament*; to effect and finiſh ſuch great matters both in Church and State, as may advance Gods glory, ſettle all things in a right frame for the good Govetnement of this Kingdome, and the everlaſting peace and tranquillity of his Majeſty and all his Kingdomes.

# Maſter *Pymme* his Speech in *Parliament* on Wedneſday the 5. of *January*, 1641.

## Concerning the Vote of the Houſe of Commons, for his Di charge upon the Aceuſation of High Treaſon, exhibited againſt himſelfe, and others, &c.

*Maſter Speaker*,

THeſe Articles of High Treaſon. exhibited by his Majeſtie againſt me and the other Gentlemen in the accuſation charged with the ſame Crime, are of great conſequence, and much danger to the State: The Articles in themſelves, if proved, are according to the Lawes of this Land High Treaſon.

Firſt, to endeavour to ſubvert the Fundamentall Lawes of the Land, is by this preſent Parliament in the Earle of *Staffords* Caſe adjudged High Treaſon.

Secondly, to endavour to introduce into this Kingdome an Arbytrarie and tyrannicall forme of Government, is likewiſe Voted High Treaſon.

Thirdly

Thirdly, to raiſe an Army to compell the Parliament to make and enact Lawes without their free Votes, and willing proceedings in the ſame is High Treaſon.

Fourthly, to invite a forraigne force to invade this Land, to favour our deſignes agitated againſt the King and State, is High Treaſon.

Fifthly, to animate and encourage riotous Aſſemblies and tumults about the *Parliament* to compell the King to aſſent to the Votes of the Houſe is Treaſon.

Sixtly, to caſt aſperſions upon his Majeſty and his Government, to alienate the affections of His people, and to make his Majeſty odious unto them is Treaſon.

Seventhly, to endeavour to draw his Majeſties Army into diſobedience, and to ſide with us in our deſignes, if againſt the King, is Treaſon.

I deſire, Maſter *Speaker*, the favour of this Houſe to declare my ſelfe, concerning this Charge, ſhall onely parrallell and ſimilize my actions ſince the ſitting of this *Parliament* with theſe Articles.

Firſt, Maſter *Speaker*, if to Vote with the *Parliament*, as a Member of the Houſe, wherein all our Votes ought to be free: it being one of the greateſt privledges thereof to have our debates, diſputes, & arguments in the ſame unqueſtionable, be to endeavour to ſubvert the Fundamentall Lawes, then am I guilty of the firſt Article.

Secondly, If to agree and conſent with the whole State of the Kingdome by Vote to ordaine and make Lawes for the good government of his Majeſties Subjects in peace and dutifull obedience to their lawfull Soveraigne bee to introduce an Arbitrary and tyrannicall forme of government in the ſtate, then am I guilty of this Article.

Thirdly, If to conſent by Vote with the *Parliament*, to raiſe a Guard, or Traine-Band to ſecure and defend the perſons of the Members thereof, being invironed and beſet with many dangers in the abſence of the King, and by Vote with the Houſe, in willing obedience to the Royall command of his ſacred Majeſty, at his returne, be actually to levie Armes againſt the King: then am I guilty of this Article.

Fourthly, If to joyne with the *Parliament*, by free Vote to crave brotherly aſſiſtance from *Scotland*, Kingdomes both under obedience to one Soveraigne, both his loyall and dutifull Subjects, to ſuppreſſe the Rebellion in *Ireland* which lyes gaſping every day in danger to be loſt from his Majeſties ſubjection, be to invite and incourage a forraigne power to invade this Kingdome: then am I guilty of High Treaſon.

Fifthly, If to agree with the greateſt and wiſeſt Councell of State, to ſuppreſſe unlawfull tumults and riotous aſſemblies, to agree with the Houſe by

Vote

Vote to all Orders, Edicts, and Declarations for their repelling, bee to raiſe and countenance them in their unlawfull actions, then am I guilty of this Article.

Sixthly, If by free Vote to joyne with the *Parliament* in publiſhing of a Remonſtrance, in ſetting forth Declarations againſt Delinquents, in the State againſt Incendiaries betweene his Majeſties Kingdome, againſt ill Counſellors which labour to avert his Majeſties affection from *Parliaments* againſt thoſe ill affected Biſhops that have innovated our Religion, oppreſſing painefull, learned and godly Miniſters with vexatious, ſuites and moleſtations in their unjuſt Courts, by cruell ſentences of Pillory, and cutting off their eares, grauſings, Baniſhment, and perpetuall Imprisonment, If this Mr. *Speaker* be to caſt aſperſions on his Majeſty and his government, and to alienate the hearts of his Loyall Subjects good Proteſtants, and well affected in Religion, from their due obedience to his Royall Majeſty, then am I guilty of this Article.

Seventhly, If to conſent by Vote with the *Parliament* to put forth Proclamations, to ſend Declarations to his Majeſties Army, to animate and encourage the ſame to his Loyall obedience, to give ſo many Subſidies, raiſed ſo many great ſummes of mony willingly for their keeping on foote to ſerve his Majeſty upon his Royall command on any occaſion, to apprehend and attach as Delinquents, ſuch perſons in the ſame as are diſaffected both to his ſacred Perſon, his Crowne and Dignity, to the wiſe and great Counſell of *Parliament* to the true and Orthodox Doctrine of the Church of *England*, and the true Religion grounded on the Doctrine of *Chriſt* himſelfe, and eſtabliſhed, and confirmed by many Acts of *Parliament* in the Reigne of *Hen.* 8. *E.* 6. Queene *Elizab.* and King *Iames* of bleſſed memory, if this Mr. *Speaker* be to draw his Majeſties Army into diſobedience, and to ſide with us in our Deſignes, then I am guilty of this Article.

Now, Maſter *Speaker*, Having given you a touch concerning theſe Articles comparing them with my Actions, ever ſince I have had the Honour to ſit in this Houſe as a Member thereof: I humbly crave your conſideration, and favourable judgement of them, not doubting, they being weighed in the even ſcales of your Wiſedomes, I ſhall bee found innocent and cleare from theſe Crimes laid to my charge.

Maſter *Speaker*, I humbly crave your further patience to ſpeake ſomewhat concerning the exhibiting of this Charge which is to propoſe to your Conſiderations theſe propoſitions, *viz.*

Firſt, whether to exhibit Articles of High Treaſon by his Majeſties owne hands in this Houſe agrees with the rights and priviledges thereof.

Second-

Secondly, Whether for a guard armed to come into the Parliament to accuſe any of the Members thereof, bee not a breach of the priviledge of Parliament.

Thirdly, Whether any of the Members of Parliament being ſo accuſed may be committed upon ſuch accuſation, without the whole conſent thereof.

Fourthly, Whether a Parliament hath not priviledge to bayle any Member ſo accuſed.

Fifthly and laſtly, Whether if any of the Members of a Parliament ſo charged, and by the Houſe diſcharged without releaſe from his Majeſty may ſtill ſit in the Houſe as members of the ſame. And thus Maſter *Speaker*, I humbly crave pardon for my preſumption in ſo farre troubling this Honourable Houſe, deſiring their favourable conſideration of all my Actions, and that I may have ſuch a tryall as to this wiſe Counſell ſhall thinke meete, cheerefully ſubmitting my ſelfe and actions to the righteous judgements of the ſame.

FINIS.